HOLLYWOOD THE SOUL SIDE by Walter Burrell

Hollywood people are talking about: The fact that songstress DIAHANN CARROLL has been signed by producer-director-writer HAL KAN-TER to star in "Mam's Man," new comedy series for NBC-TV. This makes Diahann the first Negro actress to star in a series--if the pilot of the 20th Century-Fox show sells.

Kanter's half-hour comedy pilot rolls at 20th during the first week of next month and he will direct. In the series, Diahann will portray a registered nurse who is a widow with a six-

year-old son.

Athlete-turned-actor JIM BROWN informed us this week that his Los Angeles club, Maverick's Flat, one of the most popular after-hours private clubs in town, is going to sponsor a Maverick Beauty Pageant on Thanksgiving eve. Judges for the event will include UCLA Bruin star LEW ALCINDOR, former Boston Celtics great WILLIE NAULIS, JIM BROWN, "Mission: Impossible" star GREG MORRIS and this writer.

Actor-singer-comedian BILL COSBY, on the other hand, has things other than beauty pageants on his mind these days. He's busy making a follow-up record to join his chart-climbing disc, "Up Tight."

We were present last week, just prior to Cosby's departure for Mexico and an "I Spy" segment, when he recorded what has to be his next big hit: a unique version of "Road Runner."

Black actor PHILIP ROYE had to arrange for himself to be "killed" in "The Green Berets," on location in Georgia, so he could accept a part in "The Sergeants," which will location in Paris. Roye, a relative newcomer to the film industry, started as a studio driver and is rearing a four-year-old daughter by himself. He deserves this run of good luck.

We had a fascinating interview with the FIFTH DIMENSION singing group last week at the home of one of the groups members, MAR-ILYN McCOO, and were surprised to learn that both of Marilyn's parents are doctors. Her mother is an anesthesiologist, while her father, Dr. Wayman McCoo, is in general practice.

The other young lady in the group is captivating FLORENCE LaRUE (all names are the ones they were born with) and, aside from family man RON TOWNSON (who has two sons, eight and ten), none has any intentions of starting families of their own any time soon.

In fact, bass singer LaMONT McLeMORE goes so far as to comment: "Why marry one woman and make her miserable when you can stay single and make several happy?" Something tells us he's bound to change his mind.

Someone was smart enough to buy film rights to IRVING WALLACE's book, "The Man," a fictionalized treatment about the first Negro to become president of the U.S. The newly-formed Promel Productions will begin filming early next year on what will probably be the most talked about production of the year.

There's certainly no doubt these days about which movie is doing the biggest business. According to Columbia Pictures, SIDNEY POITIER'S "To Sir, With Love" grossed a record \$3,625,000 in only ten weeks at 28 theatres in the metropolitan New York-New Jersey area recently. It's no wonder, then, that the picture will receive an encore showcase engagement at 16 theatres in that area starting this week.

Pretty ROCHELLE BENSON turned quite a

MOVING ON UP



SHOULD BE IN MOVIES—and she is. Pretty Rochelle Benson is a supporting actress with Brock Peters and Raymond Burr in "P.J."——See Walter Burrell's "The Soul Side".

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few heads when she appeared recently as a supporting actress with BROCK PETERS and RAY-MOND BURR in "P.J.," sex-filled detective thriller done at Universal Studios. She's beautiful—and she can act, too.

Singer JOHNNY MATHIS, who recently appeared on the "Jackie Gleason Show" and who is reportedly making a "come-back" of sorts, has been booked in Detroit from Nov. 27th to Dec. 3rd at the Fisher Tweatre.

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Nationally Syndicated Columnist

LEE IVORY.

TELLS THE STORY OF
HOW A Record Is Made



STARTING NEXT WEEK

The alarm clock buzzes insistently. We try to ignore it by punching the ten-minute delay button.

Ten minutes later, though, it plays the same old song all over and you either make it out of the sack right then and there, or you oversleep again. Doggoneit!

The next few motions you make--if you're like me--are automatic!

You slowly rise, rub your eyes, and turn on the nearest radio.

And, of course, if you live in an area of the country where you have access to a "soul" radio station, you never have to fumble with the dial. It's always "on the beam" and, if your relucky, you'll always fill your room with pulsating music.

I always get the commercials!

I firmly believe that if WVON (that's the station I listen to in Chicago--along with over two million others!) had only one commercial per day, I would pick that precise instant to turn on my box!

But, then, I digress.

Music . . . music . . . music . .

There's always plenty of it; day and night. There is a song to fit every modern mood; there is a song to quite accurately describe how you feel at any given moment. There are love songs (thank goodness!), and joyous, funny-type songs. Then, of course, there are the everlovin' blues.

Many readers of my syndicated column, Among the Stars, have been writing and asking the universal question: "How is a record made? There have also been many letters from persons, obviously talented (at least talented in letter writing!) who wish to know the answer to the second universal question: "How can I make a record?"

This publication, always on the alert for better and newer ways to serve its readership, will provide these answers in the coming weeks.

The entire story, as first written, was a small-sized novel! But in order to present a concise, information-packed series, the story has been cut to the bone.

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to Leonard Chess, head of Chess Producing Corporation and president of L. & P. Broadcasting Company, and his most able artist and repertoire director, Billy Davis, for their unstinting cooperation in preparing this photo-story for your enjoyment.

We will, for all practical purposes, peek over the shoulders of four lovely young ladies. The Vashonettes, as they prepare to record their first record. The title, "Love," and the girls go very well together and speculations are high that this first recorded effort will land high-high-high on the nation's popularity charts determined by actual sales.

In the next eight weeks, you'll find out what makes Americans support the music industry to the happy-type tune of over \$300,000,000 per year. We will see how, with the proper recorded product, the proper promotion, and the proper exploitation of the artists involved, an unknown group of singers can-in less than two months-become a household by-word.

Hopefully, The Vashonettes will become this word.

And, remember, you were on the set from start to finish.

So, reserve your copy of The Las Vegas VOICE which will carry the feature story exclusively in this area.

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